

Roosevelt and Stalin at Yalta

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This session will explore:

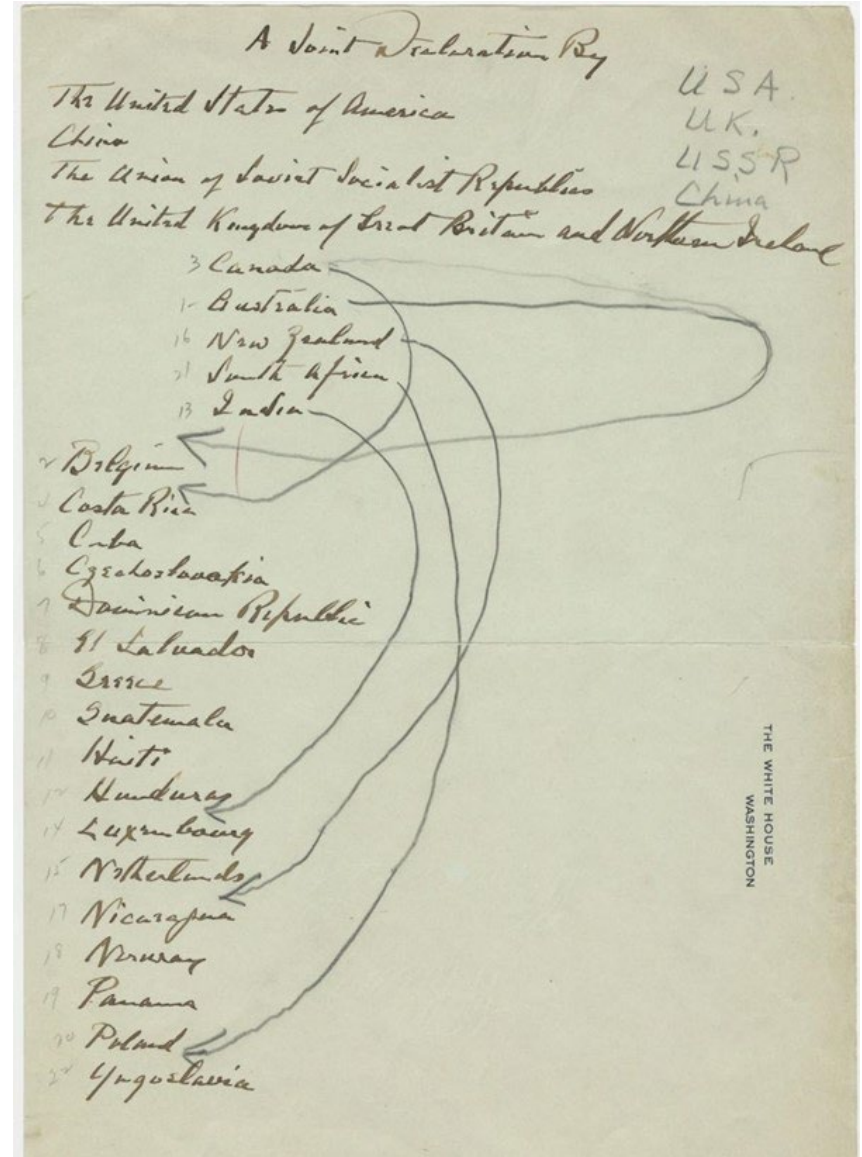
- Who were Roosevelt and Stalin?
- What were their views and understandings of the war?
- The role of the Four Freedoms and United Nations
- Three myths of Yalta
- Four key documents
- Five take-away understandings

Three Myths of Yalta

1. The “Big Three” Alliance was a cozy, well-oiled Love Fest
2. FDR gave away Eastern Europe to the Russians
3. Yalta was a Failure

Joint Declaration of the Nations United against the Axis Powers

In January 1942, just weeks after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, FDR called to Washington representatives from 26 nations to stand united against the Axis Powers. This group came to be the core of developing the idea of the United Nations.



The “Big Three”

This photo shows the “Big Three.” Careful reading of the body language shows FDR turning from Churchill towards the Stalin as the United States and the Soviet Union become the world’s two new Superpowers.

Note also that Stalin and FDR’s chairs are of roughly equal height, while Churchill’s is lower – representing England’s decline in world affairs.



'Tube Alloys' Memo

Soviet distrust of the United States and Great Britain is justified in point number 3 of this memo outlining how the Atomic Bomb will be produced and used without sharing information with the Soviets.

This distrust was a key underpinning of the Cold War.



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W.D.
10, Downing Street,
Whitehall.

TUBE ALLOYS

Aide-memoire of conversation between the President and the Prime Minister at Hyde Park, September 18, 1944.

1. The suggestion that the world should be informed regarding Tube Alloys, with a view to an international agreement regarding its control and use, is not accepted. The matter should continue to be regarded as of the utmost secrecy; but when a "bomb" is finally available, it might perhaps, after mature consideration, be used against the Japanese, who should be warned that this bombardment will be repeated until they surrender.
2. Full collaboration between the United States and the British Government in developing Tube Alloys for military and commercial purposes should continue after the defeat of Japan unless and until terminated by joint agreement.
3. Enquiries should be made regarding the activities of Professor Bohr and steps taken to ensure that he is responsible for no leakage of information, particularly to the Russians.

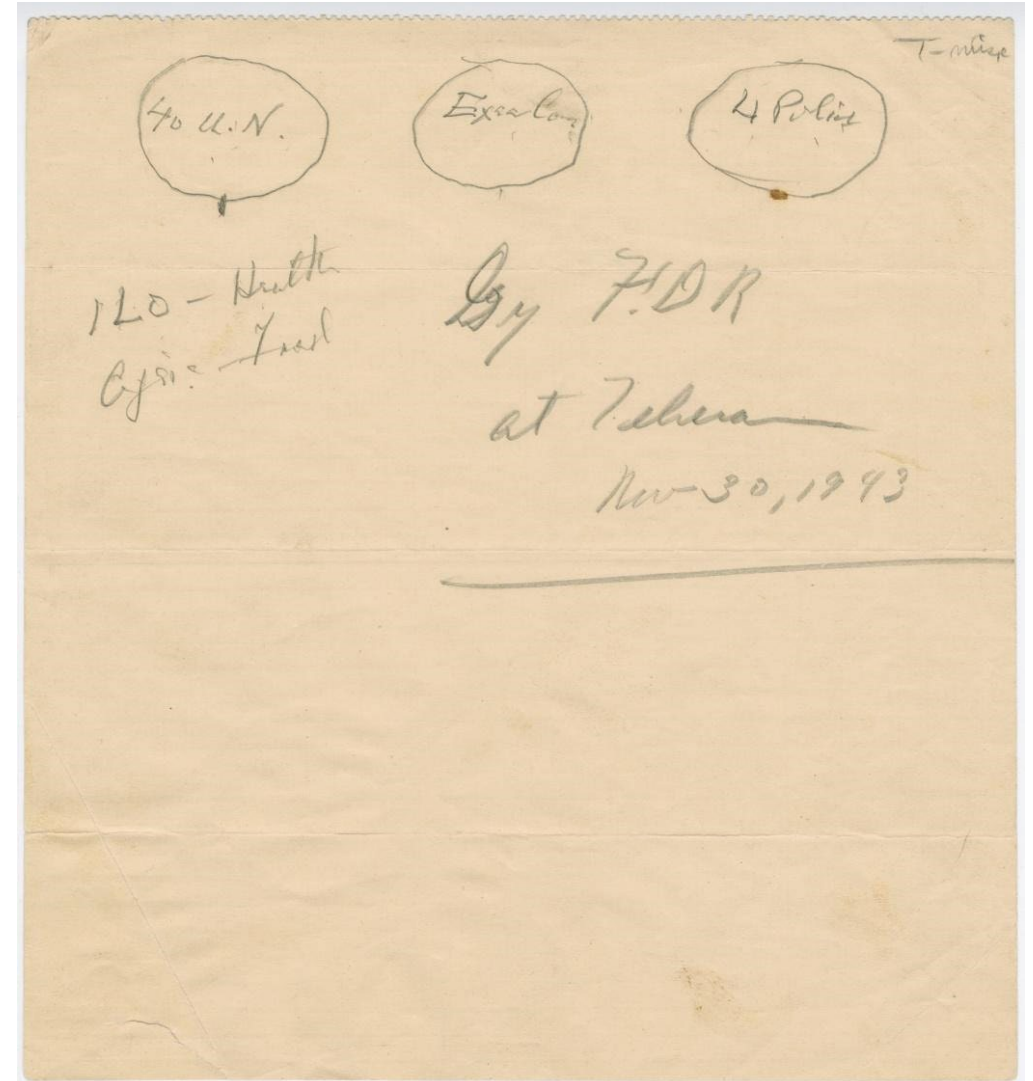
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Sketch for the Structure of the United Nations

FDR made this doodle outlining the structure of the United Nations at Tehran in 1943.

The new world organization would bring basic employment needs to the people of the world through an “ILO” (International Labor Organization), basic food needs through an “agricultural–food” committee, basic health needs through a “health” committee and peace and security through the “Four Policemen.”

Together, the items listed above would provide all of FDR’s “Four Freedoms.”



Five Key Take-a-ways

To more fully understand relations between nations you must consider...

- 1) The Personalities of the Leaders
- 2) The Histories of the Nations
- 3) The Political Systems and Cultures
- 4) The Perceptions and Perspectives
- 5) The Reality of the Current Situation